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§14–405.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in the Administrative Procedure Act, before the Board or a disciplinary panel takes any action under \$14-404(a) of this subtitle or \$14-205(b)(3), \$14-5A-17(a), \$14-5B-14(a), \$14-5C-17(a), \$14-5D-14(a), \$14-5E-16(a), or \$14-5F-18 of this title, it shall give the individual against whom the action is contemplated an opportunity for a hearing before a hearing officer.
- (b) (1) The hearing officer shall give notice and hold the hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.
- (2) Factual findings shall be supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
 - (c) The individual may be represented at the hearing by counsel.
- (d) If after due notice the individual against whom the action is contemplated fails or refuses to appear, nevertheless the hearing officer may hear and refer the matter to the Board or a disciplinary panel for disposition.
- (e) After performing any necessary hearing under this section, the hearing officer shall refer proposed factual findings to the Board or a disciplinary panel for the Board's or disciplinary panel's disposition.
- (f) The Board may adopt regulations to govern the taking of depositions and discovery in the hearing of charges.
- (g) The hearing of charges may not be stayed or challenged by any procedural defects alleged to have occurred prior to the filing of charges.

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